

#EC-29
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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Washington, DC 20423

Office of Economics, Environmental Analysis, and Administration

August 25, 2003

Mr. William Sippel
Fletcher & Sippel LLC
29 North Wacker Drive
Suite 920
Chicago, IL 60606-2875

Re: STB Docket No. AB-227 (Sub-No. 9X) – Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway
Company – Abandonment Exemption – in Harrison and Jefferson
Counties, OH – Fulfillment of Stipulation 8 of the Memorandum of
Agreement Between the Surface Transportation Board and the Ohio
Historic Preservation Office

Dear Mr. Sippel:

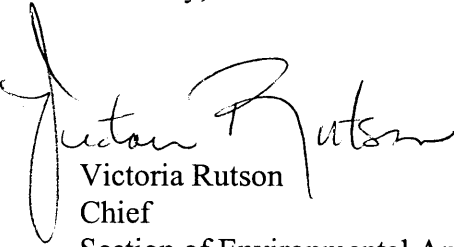
Enclosed please find the final version of the report summarizing the Section of
Environmental Analysis' (SEA) June 3, 2003 National Archives research visit. This final report
incorporates the oral comments provided by the Ohio Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) on
the draft version of the report submitted to the SHPO for review and comment.

We are providing several copies of the report so that the Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway
Company (W&LE) may include the report as part of the documentation submitted to the public
libraries in Adena, Dillonvale, Cadiz and Steubenville, as specified in the Memorandum of
Agreement (MOA) for this proceeding.

We are also submitting a copy of this final report to the SHPO, thus completing SEA's
responsibilities under the MOA. We appreciate your efforts and assistance throughout the
section 106 process in this proceeding.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me or Rini Ghosh of my staff at (202) 565-1539.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Victoria Rutson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Victoria" and last name "Rutson" clearly distinguishable.

Victoria Rutson
Chief
Section of Environmental Analysis

Enclosures